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DEC 06 2006
U.S. Serial No. 09/836,378
Attorney Docket No. PD-200144

REMARKS

The Office action dated September 8, 2006 rejected claims 1-19 as unpatentable over Bellamy (US 6,209,025) in view of Garahi et al. (US 6,674,448). In light of the following remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 recites a digital video recorder comprising, *inter alia*, a telephone answering device for receiving voice signals and caller ID signals representing a telephone message from a caller and converting the voice signals and caller ID signals into digital signals and at least one processor for directing storage of the digital signals to a storage device and controlling playback of the stored digital signals of the telephone message to be output at a display device operatively connected to the digital video recorder.

Bellamy is directed to an integrated video system. Bellamy does not describe or suggest all of the recitations of claim 1. For example, Bellamy does not describe or suggest a telephone answering device for receiving voice signals representing a telephone message from a caller, and converting the voice signals into digital signals and a processor for directing storage and/or controlling playback of the digital signals. The Office action alleges that Bellamy describes such telephone operations in FIG. 1 and lines 18-41 of Col. 3. However, neither FIG. 1 nor the cited portions of Bellamy describes such an answering device and processor. Rather, Bellamy suggests the use of a modem to provide a data link over a telephone line and a standalone telephone that allows users to place and receive telephone calls. Bellamy does not describe or suggest a digital video recorder that controls playback of stored digital signals of a telephone message to be output at a display device operatively connected to the digital video recorder.

Like Bellamy, the cited portions of Garahi do not describe or suggest a telephone answering device for receiving voice signals and caller ID signals representing a telephone message from a caller and converting the voice signals and caller ID signals into digital signals and at least one processor for directing storage of the digital signals to a storage

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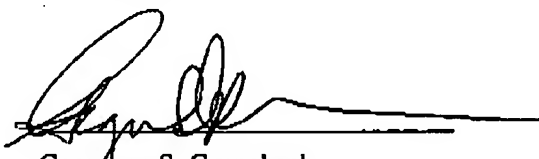
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device and controlling playback of the stored digital signals of the telephone message to be output at a display device operatively connected to the digital video recorder. The Office action does not allege that Garahi describes such an answering device and processor.

It is well established that the prior art must teach or suggest each of the claim elements and must additionally provide a suggestion of, or an incentive for, the claimed combination of elements to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. See *In re Oetiker*, 24 USPQ. 2d 1443, 1446 (Fed. Cir. 1992); *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ. 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. 1985); *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981 (CCPA 1974) and M.P.E.P. § 2143. Therefore, claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

If, for any reason, the examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office action, the examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Georgann S. Grunebach
Reg. No. 33,179
Attorney for Applicant

Dated: December 6, 2006
The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
CA/LA1/A109
P.O. Box 956
2230 E. Imperial Highway
El Segundo, CA 90245
310-964-4615